

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 05318 021245Z

45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 NIC-01 ACDA-19 AID-20 RSR-01

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R 021205Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9855

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 5318

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR IN, PK, BG

SUBJ: PAK/INDO/BANGLADESH RELATIONS

REF: ISLAMABAD 5209 (NOTAL)

1. GOP MINSTATE AZIZ AHMED INFORMED CHARGE JULY 2
THAT RESPONSE HAD NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED TO HIS JUNE 23
LETTER TO SWARAN SINGH. AHMED WAS CONFIDENT, HOWEVER,
THAT GOP INTENDED RESUME DISCUSSIONS AS PROPOSED BY
GOP. THIS SEEMED EVIDENT FROM SWARAN SINGH'S LAST
LETTER IN WHICH HE HAD DROPPED PREVIOUS DEMAND THAT
PAKISTAN ACCEPT PRINCIPLES ENUNCIATED IN DELHI DECLARATION
OF APRIL 17. AHMED THOUGHT THAT DELHI MIGHT NOW BE
CONSULTING WITH BDG ON PRECISE REPLY TO AHMED'S
JUNE 23 LETTER. BDG MIGHT STILL CREATE PROBLEMS, BUT
IT WAS AHMED'S IMPRESSION THAT GOP WAS RATHER TIRED
OF CONTINUED IMPASSE. IT WAS HIS HOPE THAT GOI WOULD
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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 05318 021245Z

COME TO NEXT MEETING WITH GOP, DESIROUS OF WORKING OUT

SOME OVERALL SOLUTION. TRIALS WERE THE REAL OBSTACLE. AHMED THOUGHT GOI MIGHT BE AGREEABLE TO BEGIN RETURNING BULK OF POWS WHILE TRIALS SORTED OUT.

2. AHMED HAD PROPOSED TO SWARAN SINGH THAT NEXT INDO/PAK MEETING TAKE PLACE IN KARACHI ON JULY 9. KARACHI HAD BEEN SUGGESTED BECAUSE PRES BHUTTO WOULD BE THERE AT THAT TIME, BEFORE HIS SCHEDULED JULY 12 DEPARTURE FOR US (VIA ROME). INASMUCH AS NO RESPONSE YET RECEIVED FROM DELHI, IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO MEET BY JULY 9. IN THAT EVENT, MEETING WOULD HAVE TO BE HELD OVER UNTIL AFTER BHUTTO'S RETURN FROM US.

3. IN RESPONSE CHARGE'S QUERY, AHMED SAID THAT CHINA'S VIEW OF IMPASSE IN SUBCONTINENT WAS UNCHANGED FROM LAST UNGA. THIS HAD BEEN MADE CLEAR BY CHINESE FONMIN DURING HIS VISIT TO PAKISTAN TWO WEEKS AGO. AS FAR AS PEKING WAS CONCERNED, PAK POWS HAD TO BE RETURNED. AFTER GOP RECOGNIZED BDG, PRC WOULD THEN CONSIDER WHAT STEP IT SHOULD TAKE. EMPHASIZING ESSENTIAL PATIENCE OF CHINESE, AHMED SAID THEY WERE IN NO HURRY TO ACT BUT HE DID BELIEVE TYEY WOULD LIKE TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH BD IN DUE TIME. HE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT IT WAS IN PAKISTAN'S INTEREST FOR CHINESE (JUST AS US) TO BE PRESENT IN BANGLADESH.

SOBER

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